

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 28629 281911Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 H-01 /071 W
-----127814 290432Z /14

R 281831Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6611
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 28629

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PERP, FR, SS
SUBJECT: QUAI STILL PESSIMISTIC ON WESTERN SAHARA
PEACE PROSPECTS

REF: PARIS 24500

IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR AUGUST 25 MFA SECRETARY
GENERAL SOUTOU SAID NOTHING HAD HAPPENED IN THE LAST
THREE WEEKS TO CHANGE HIS PESSIMISTIC ASSESSMENT OF
PEACE PROSPECTS (REFTEL). SOUTOU SAID THAT ALGERIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA'S TALKS WITH PRESENT
GISCARD IN PARIS HAD PRODUCED NOTHING. SOUTOU, A
FORMER AMBASSADOR TO ALGIERS, REMAINS CONVINCED THAT THE
ALGERIANS SEE OULD DADDAH'S FALL AS A VICTORY FOR THEM
AND ARE NOT INCLINED TO MAKE CONCESSIONS. SOUTOU READS
KING HASSAN'S AUGUST 20 SPEECH AS CONFIRMING THAT
MOROCCO CANNOT ACCEPT ANY OF THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS THAT
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HAVE BEEN PROPOSED RECENTLY. HE ALLOWED THAT HASSAN'S
HARD LINE MIGHT BE A TACTIC, BUT HE DID NOT THINK IT WAS.
SOUTOU ADDED THAT PERHAPS SOME PROGRESS COULD BE MADE
THROUGH FURTHER ACTIVATION OF THE OAU WISE MEN. IN ALL,
HOWEVER, HIS ANALYSIS OF PEACE PROSPECTS WAS DISTINCTLY
NEGATIVE.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS28629
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780352-0047
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780817/aaaaaogs.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7614f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARIS 24500
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1602316
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QUAI STILL PESSIMISTIC ON WESTERN SAHARA PEACE PROSPECTS
TAGS: PEPR, PINR, FR, SS, AG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7614f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014